

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 224-2004



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: August 20, 2004

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge", written over the printed name.

Subject: **MUTUAL AID ASSISTANCE TO AREAS IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
AFFECTED BY HURRICANE CHARLEY**

The purpose of this LTC is to inform you of efforts by the City of Miami Beach to offer support to areas of Southwest Florida affected by Hurricane Charley.

The Fire Department has deployed two units, an engine company, with four firefighter/paramedics, and a rescue company, with three firefighter/paramedics. These firefighters/paramedics are assigned to be part of Strike Teams assembled from throughout South Florida under the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. These units and personnel have been deployed since Friday, August 13 evening and may remain for up to fourteen (14) days. Since their deployment, these units have assisted with hospital evacuations, conducted search and rescue operations, and responded to fire, emergency medical, and public service calls. Currently they are assigned to a fire station to relieve local emergency crews.

The Police Department deployed twenty-seven (27) officers that provided assistance during the first twenty-four (24) hours after Hurricane Charley made landfall. Those officers are back now and the Police Department will deploy an additional fifteen (15) officers beginning Saturday, August 21 for ten (10) days. These officers are expected to help with public service calls and relieve local emergency crews.

The Building Department deployed a team of four (4) building officials on Thursday, August 19 including two (2) building inspectors, one (1) electrical inspector and one (1) structural engineer. The Building Department team is expected to return on Monday, August 23.

Under the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement, public safety personnel are assembled from areas within the State of Florida that are unaffected by a natural disaster such as a hurricane. The agreement also provides for some reimbursement of expenses from FEMA through the State of Florida. Our participation allows us to respond to, and assist other communities in Florida suffering from devastation caused by natural and other disasters, as other public safety agencies would respond to assist our community if needed.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to let me know.

JMG/vri

c: Floyd Jordan, Fire Chief
Don De Lucca, Police Chief
Phil Azan, Building Director

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